

you're really helping define the face of America. When you mentor a child who seems lost or hopeless, you're helping to define America. When you teach in a classroom, when you love your children and you tell your children you love them every day, that's part of making sure that America is as compassionate as can be.

No, the enemy hit us, but out of this evil is going to come some incredible good. Out of this evil is going to come a nation that will be stronger, more resolved, tougher, but also more loving.

I believe that the country is on the verge of changing the culture which for years has said, "If it feels good, just go ahead and do it," and "If you've got a problem, blame somebody else," to a day in which each of us understand we're responsible for the decisions we make in life, that we're responsible for something greater than ourselves.

That came home to me on Flight 93: When Americans were on an airplane, they got the word that they were—the enemy was going to use the airplane as a weapon. They got on cell phones and told their loved ones goodbye; they said a prayer; they drove the plane into the ground to save somebody else.

It's the America that I know, and it's the America that I love that was represented in that act, and that happens every day. It happens every day here in South Dakota. It happens every day in States and communities across the country. That willingness to serve something greater than yourself is such a wonderful part of the American character.

And my call to you is, if you want to fight evil, do some good; love a neighbor just like you'd like to be loved yourself. It's happening all across America—because, folks, I happen to be the President of the greatest nation on the face of the Earth because of our people.

God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:32 p.m. in a storage warehouse at the plant. In his remarks, he referred to Ron Alverson, president, board of directors, Lake Area Corn Processors, the plant's ownership cooperative; and Gov. William J. Janklow of South Dakota and his wife, Mary Dean Janklow. The President also referred to RFS, the proposed Renewable Fuels Standard to specify a percentage of the Nation's fuel supply to come from renewable domestic fuels like ethanol and biodiesel.

## Statement on House of Representatives Action on Corporate Responsibility Legislation

*April 24, 2002*

I commend the House for acting quickly to pass reforms that improve corporate responsibility and protect shareholders. The House bill includes the three core principles of my 10-point plan—providing better information to investors, making corporate officers more accountable, and developing a stronger, more independent

audit system. With 80 million Americans participating as shareholders of companies, we must ensure high standards, tough disclosure requirements, and accurate information. The House bill is a responsible approach to addressing these important issues.

## Message on the Observance of Armenian Remembrance Day *April 24, 2002*

Today, we commemorate an appalling tragedy of the 20th century, the massacre of as many as 1.5 million Armenians through forced exile and murder at the end of the Ottoman Empire. These horrific killings left wounds that remain painful for people in Armenia, in Turkey, and around the world. I join the Armenian community in America and across the globe in mourning this horrendous loss of life.

Today is an occasion for the world to reflect upon and draw lessons from these terrible events. It is a day for recognizing that demonizing others lays the foundation for a dark cycle of hatred. Transcending this venomous pattern requires painful introspection about the past and wise determination to forge a new future based on truth and reconciliation. In this spirit, I look forward to Turkey restoring economic, political, and cultural links with Armenia.

The United States greatly values the contributions that Armenians make to our national life. With faith and courage, generations of Armenians have overcome great suffering and proudly preserved their centuries-old culture, traditions, and religion. The United States is also deeply grateful for Armenia's swift and decisive cooperation in the war against terrorism. Just as the United States reached out to the Armenian people to provide shelter and freedom

early in the last century, so did Armenia extend a supportive hand to the American people in the immediate aftermath of September 11. Our two peoples stand together in this fight in support of values that define civilization itself.

I am also very proud of America's strong support for a free Armenian state, whose citizens enjoy the fruits of peace and increasing prosperity. In the months to come, America will continue to increase its security cooperation with Armenia and with Armenia's neighbors to combat terrorism and pursue a lasting and just settlement to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, which will strengthen peace and stability in the Caucasus. The United States will also continue its strong support for Armenia's efforts to develop democratic and free market institutions, and to deepen its integration into the Euro-Atlantic community.

On behalf of the American people, I send warm wishes and expressions of solidarity to the Armenian people on this solemn day of remembrance. Together, our nations look with hope and determination toward a future of peace, prosperity, and freedom.

GEORGE W. BUSH

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.

## Remarks at a Reception for Senatorial Candidate John Thune in Sioux Falls, South Dakota *April 24, 2002*

Thank you all very much. Thank you. It is great to be back in South Dakota. I want to thank you all for such a warm and gracious welcome. I am here because I want John Thune to become the next

United States Senator. I want to thank you for helping him. He is—my attitude is, anytime you find a person of high character and strong values, you've got to help him, and I want to thank you for doing that.